(b) whether the civic amenities of light, fan and drinking water in these bogies are inadequate;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to replace these bogies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Railway is constrained to run some of the overaged coaches on local trains as it is not feasible to replace all overaged coaches due to constraint of funds and manufacturing capacity. Indian Railways have perforce to continue in Service coaches which are old and sometimes even overaged. However, it is ensured that they meet all safety requirements.

(b) Indian Railways take every possible care to provide, as far as possible, the amenities as recommended by the passenger Amenities committee. However, sometimes it becomes difficult to make good the fittings etc. stolen by the anti-social elements. The drinking water arrangements are not made in local trains involving short journeys with frequent stoppages. Passengers can avail of the drinking water facilities provided at the stations.

(c) to (e). The replacement of old coaches with new ones is a continuous process and old coaches will be replaced as and when new coaches are available.

Trade on Snake Skins Items

4289. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether snake skins and items made of snake skins are allowed to be traded within the country;

(b) if so, whether any special licence is required thereof; and

(c) if so, the details of the procedure followed in this regard and the number of the parties to whom such licences have been issued during the last two year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). Under section 49 B of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 snake skins and articles made out of skins of snakes included in Schedule I and part II of Schedule II are not allowed to be traded within the country.

(c) does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Afforestations of Railway Land

4290. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of saplings planted so far under the afforestation scheme of railway land;

(b) the arrangements made for the maintenance of the said plants and the headwise expenditure incurred thereon each year;

(c) the annual income of the Railway from the said trees;

(d) the number and names of the fruit trees planted;

(e) whether the Government propose to plant trees on large scale on the vacant railway land from the point of view of environment;

(f) if so, the tentative details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (g). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*English*]

'Free Card Passes' for Railway Employees in Delhi

4291. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand from railway employees of Delhi for issuing of 'free card passes' to travel between their residence and office; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) yes, Sir.

(b(Existing practice with regard to issue of such passes is being continued and new cases are not being considered.

Reinstatement of Railway Employees

4292. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway employees involved who were dismissed/removed from service with effect from April 1, 1980;

(b) the number of those whose appeals were decided favourably;

(c) the number of those who were reinstated in accordance with Court direction;

(d) the number of remaining employees and their break-up grade-wise and function-wise;

(e) the number of the remaining employees who have reached the age of superannuation;

(f) the number of the remaining employees who have died in the meantime; and

(g) the nature and extent of monetary relief proposed to be given to the remaining employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 667 Railway employees were dismissed/removed from service under Rule 14(ii) of Railway Servants (Discipline & Appeal) Rules from 01.04.1980 and onwards for participation in Trade Union agitations.

(b) Appeals/Revision petitions of 24 employees out of (a) above were decided favourably.

(c) 294.

(d) 349. The gradewise and function (designation) wise details are being collected from the Zonal Railways and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(e) 66.

(f) 14.

(g) The matter is under consideration.

Procurement of Wheat

4293. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the stock provision of foodgrains as on 1 April, 1991 and 31 March, 1992; and

(b) the amount allocated and actually released for procurement of foodgrains during 1991-92, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 1.4.1991 and 1.3.1992 (as available) is as under:–